

I am deeply concerned to learn of Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election. If this occurs, I trust that they will be expected to air a pro-Kerry program like "Going Upriver" shortly after. If not, this is exactly why I have been lobbying my Senators and Representative to vote no whenever there is legislature which would allow increasing media consolidation. Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. Clearly when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for their bottom line and less balanced information that we need to make decisions that further real democracy. Instead of something spun at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more balanced substantive news about issues that matter.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.